

JORDAN RIVER COMMISSON
Governing Board – Regular Meeting

Minutes of June 18, 2015

Name	Agency or Organization	Present
Corey Rushton	Board Past-Chair, West Valley City	
Chris McCandless	Board Chair, Sandy City	
Rebecca Call	Board Vice-Chair, Saratoga Springs	By Alternate: Scott Langford
Steve Barnes	City of South Jordan	
Richard Bay	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District	
Ralph Becker	Salt Lake City	By Alternate: Lewis Kogan
John Bennett	Office of the Governor	X
Bill Colbert	Draper City	
Ben McAdams	Salt Lake County	
Commissioner Jim Smith	Davis County	X
Commissioner Larry Ellertson	Utah County	
Hal Johnson	Utah Transit Authority	X
Debbie Snow	City of South Salt Lake	X
Laura Ault	Division of Forestry Fire State Lands	By Alternate: Laura Vernon
Rep. Rich Cunningham	Utah House of Representatives	
Stan Porter	City of North Salt Lake	By Alternate: Ken Leetham
Trent Staggs	Riverton City	
Sophie Rice	City of West Jordan	X
Tee Tyler	Cottonwood Heights	
Dan Armstrong	Taylorsville	X
Eric Gaddis	Division of Water Quality	By Alternate: Carl Adams
Aimee Newton	Salt Lake County Council	X
Scott Peters	Ex-Officio, Jordan River Foundation	X
Alene Bentley	Ex-Officio, Rocky Mountain Power	X
Jon Bronson	Ex-Officio, Zions Bank	
Amy Collins	Ex-Officio, TreeUtah	
Greg Hardy	Ex-Officio, Chevron	X
Michael Horrocks	Ex-Officio, Wasatch Rowing Foundation	
Soren Simonsen	Ex-Officio, At Large	X
Michael Steele	Ex-Officio, Utah State Fairpark	X
Ray Pickup	Ex-Officio, Workers Compensation Fund	By Alternate: Kris McFarland
Tim Brown	Ex-Officio, Tracy Aviary	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Laura Hanson, Jordan River Commission
Adam Gardiner, Salt Lake County

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Jordan River Commission, was held on Thursday June 18, 2015 at 9:00 am at the Taylorsville City Hall, 2600 West Taylorsville Boulevard, Utah 84128

Ken Leetham, Board Treasurer, chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. He called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, and welcomed the Board and thanked everyone for attending.

ITEM 1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Ken Leetham asked if there were any changes to the agenda. No changes made

Motion – Alene Bentley made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes.

Second – Greg Hardy

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 2 – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ken Leetham asked Laura Hanson to give the Director's Report.

Laura Hanson thanked the Board and gave an overview of work progress and updates since the last Board meeting:

Community Relations & Outreach

- Volunteer Events - Five service projects held so far in addition to the GTR Festival. We have now lead over 11,500 volunteer hours along the Parkway since 2012.
- Community tabling at the Sorenson Unity Fair on May 28, 2015 and along the Jordan River Parkway Trail on Saturday June 13, 2015.
- Get Into the River
 - 500 volunteers at 19 different service projects, hosted by 13 community partners
 - 11 Festival activities/sites hosted by 14 community partners

New Grants Submitted

- No new grants submitted or awarded

Projects

- Congratulations to Sandy City for passing a resolution supporting the Best Practices for Riverfront Communities toolbox and committing to use it as a guiding tool when making local planning decisions within the river corridor.
- Hunter High School hosted a presentation of an exhibit they produced documenting their experiences working along the Jordan River. This exhibit was on display at the High School and is scheduled to also be displayed at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center this summer.

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- The JRC has released a Request for Proposals to qualified consultants interested in assisting the JRC and the Utah Division of Water Quality with a series of experiments to determine the effect of water flow on levels of dissolved oxygen in the Lower Jordan River. The project is funded by a grant from the Utah Division of Water Quality, through the Willard Bay Spill Mitigation Funds.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 3 – TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Laura Hanson noted that the TAC did not meet in June.

ITEM 4 – PUBLIC HEARING – FY2016 BUDGET

Ken Leetham opened the public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2016. No members of the public were present to speak during the hearing, and so the hearing was closed.

No action taken.

ITEM 5a - DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016.

Ken Leetham asked Laura Hanson to introduce this topic.

Laura Hanson explained that The Jordan River Commission's fiscal year ends on June 30, 2015, and the budget for FY2016 must be approved before the end of the year. The JRC is estimating to end FY15 with positive net income. The proposed FY16 Budget closely follows previous years, but includes a few changes. She reviewed the main changes from last year's budget and answered questions about the budget. One change was made to update accounts 4 - Grant Revenue and account 6200 Grant Expenses to reflect grant funds already expended in FY 2015 for the WVC Stormwater pond grant.

Motion – Aimee Winder Newton made a motion to approve the FY2016 Budget with the changes discussed to the grant revenue and expenses accounts.

Second – John Bennett.

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 5b – CONSIDER A MOTION SUPPORTING THE NATURE IN THE CITY PROPOSAL

Ken Leetham asked Laura Hanson to present this item.

Laura Hanson gave an overview of the discussion so far regarding the Nature In the City Proposal prepared and presented by Soren Simonsen and Ray Wheeler. She explained that the proposal proponents have asked the Governing Board to consider a motion supporting the proposal. The Executive Committee discussed the request prior to the Board meeting and has suggested that a letter of support for the recommendations of the Blueprint Jordan River be provided, and that the Board encourage the project proponents to find the parallels between their proposal and this vision document.

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Motion – John Bennett made a motion to send the letter of support as drafted to the project proponents.

Second – Soren Simonsen

Vote – 17 votes in favor, 1 abstention by Lewis Kogan.

Hal Johnson asked if the motion and letter might perhaps be misunderstood to be an endorsement of closure of the Glendale and Rose Park golf courses.

Amended Motion - Soren Simonsen suggested an amendment to the motion to clarify that this letter is not an endorsement of golf course closures.

Second – Debbie Snow

Vote – 17 votes in favor, 1 abstention by Lewis Kogan

ITEM 5C– CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE JORDAN RIVER COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLAN

Ken Leetham asked Laura Hanson to introduce this item.

Laura Hanson explained that the Jordan River Commission has been working on this plan for the past year, and that a two-month public comment period was held from April 1 to May 31, 2015. No public comments were received, but she did receive a few telephone calls from people that had seen the plan and wanted to know more about the Commission. The plan is now before the Board for consideration.

Dan Armstrong asked how many members of the Board had read the plan and suggested that the Board wait to vote until people have had opportunity to review it. Several Board member alternates were present at the meeting and many said they had not read the plan.

Laura Hanson responded explaining that there had been many opportunities to review the plan and provide input on the draft, and that she felt the plan was ready for adoption.

Motion – Soren Simonsen made a motion to adopt the Strategic Plan.

Second – Aimee Winder Newton

Vote – 17 in favor, 1 against by Dan Armstrong

ITEM 6a – DISCUSS SCHEDULE AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE JORDAN RIVER COMMISSION INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND BY LAWS

Ken Leetham asked Laura Hanson to introduce this item.

Laura Hanson explained that recent legislation requires a small change to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement and that the Board has discussed using this opportunity to remove extraneous information from this document and place it in the By Laws, which are easier to update in the future. She suggested the following timeline for reviewing and updating the document:

August Board meeting – review draft changes

September and October – individual local government review and adoption

November Board meeting – adopt changes to Bylaws

She also noted that the legislation also requires the Commission to adopt a policy on employment hiring, performance review and termination policies, which will also be presented at the August Board meeting.

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Ken Leetham expressed concern about opening up the discussion about the technical project review sections in the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. John Bennett suggested a FAQ document to accompany the suggested changes to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement, explaining why the changes are necessary.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 6b – DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A PROCESS FOR SOLICITING AND REVIEWING PROPOSALS FOR JORDAN RIVER IMPROVEMENT FUNDING.

Ken Leetham asked Laura Hanson to introduce this item. Laura Hanson explained that the legislative appropriation received by the Jordan River Commission this year will be administered by the Utah Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands. To ensure that the process meets all state standards for financial management, a draft process has been developed to solicit and review project proposals, and to make a recommendation to FFSL on funding awards.

A number of changes were suggested to the evaluation criteria weighting to increase the importance of projects meeting the commission's priorities and demonstrate matching dollar support.

John Bennet suggested that project urgency should be considered as well.

Ken Leetham asked if the host topics have been decided upon, and that they should follow the Blueprint Jordan River as closely as possible.

Motion – Aimee Winder Newton made a motion to update the evaluation criteria weighting to show 20% for matching contributions, and 40% for alignment with the Hot Topics.

Second – Jim Smith

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

Several additional changes were discussed, but a quorum was lost before any additional motions could be voted upon.

ITEM 7 – Presentation: Wendy Fisher, Utah Open Lands

Wendy Fisher, Executive Director of Utah Open Lands presented to the board an overview of their work to preserve a large property along the shores of the Great Salt Lake and bordering the Jordan River.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 8 – Public Comment

Ken Leetham asked if any members of the public were there to address the Board. Seeing none, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

ITEM 9 – OTHER BUSINESS

Ken Leetham asked if any members of the Board had other business for discussion. Seeing none, this portion of the meeting was closed.

ITEM 10 - CONFIRM NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURN

The next meeting of the Jordan River Commission Governing Board will be August 20, 2015, 9:00-11:00, Taylorsville City Hall.

On motion and second, the meeting was adjourned.